

Appl. No. 10/073,764
Reply to Office Action Dated Oct. 16, 2007

REMARKS

With the foregoing amendment claims 1, 2, and 7-9 are pending in the application. Claim 1 is the sole independent claims. No new matter has been added by the amendments. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present application based on the remarks below regarding claim 1.

Claim 1 is patentable over Steinberg (US 6,433,818) in view of Watanabe (US 2002/0039479) because neither reference, considered alone or in combination, teaches or suggests that "the processor is configured to read the value of the second enable state variable and then set the value of the first enable state variable stored in the memory to the value of the second enable state variable," as is required by claim 1, as amended (support for the amendment can be found at, for example, paragraph 0028 of the published application – 2003/0151669).

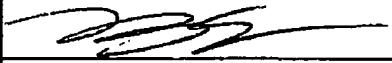
The Office contends that the "second enable stat variable" reads on the "user access password" disclosed in Steinberg. Applicants disagree. Nevertheless, even if it was true that the "second enable stat variable" reads on the "user access password" disclosed in Steinberg, claim 1 would still be patentable because Steinberg does not disclose a processor configured to "read the value of the [user access password] and then set the value of the first enable state variable stored in the memory to the value of the [user access password]." Accordingly, the rejection of claims 1, 2 and 7-9 should be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

All of the stated grounds of objection and rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding objections and rejections, and that they be withdrawn. Applicants believe that a full and complete reply has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance.

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If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,					
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